

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Kansas
COUNTY: Republic
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:

Pawnee Indian Village and Site (14RP1)

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

On K-266, 8 miles north of US-36, near Republic

CITY OR TOWN:

Republic vicinity

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

no. 1, Keith Sebelius

STATE

Kansas

CODE

20

COUNTY:

Republic

CODE

157

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY
(Check One)

- ☐ District ☐ Building
☒ Site ☐ Structure
☐ Object

OWNERSHIP

- ☒ Public
☐ Private
☐ Both

Public Acquisition:

- ☐ In Process
☐ Being Considered

STATUS

- ☒ Occupied
☐ Unoccupied
☐ Preservation work
 in progress

ACCESSIBLE
TO THE PUBLIC

- Yes:
☒ Restricted
☐ Unrestricted
☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural | <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Comments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | | |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

State of Kansas

STREET AND NUMBER:

State Capitol

CITY OR TOWN:

Topeka

STATE:

Kansas 66612

CODE

20

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:

Republic County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:

Belleville

STATE

Kansas 66935

CODE

20

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings

DATE OF SURVEY:

☒ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

STREET AND NUMBER:

801 19th St., N. W.

CITY OR TOWN:

Washington

STATE:

D. C. 20006

CODE

08

STATE: Kansas	COUNTY: Republic	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This was the site of a Republican (Kitkehahki) Pawnee village in the 1820's and 1830's. The earthlodges were round, dome-shaped structures with a framework of heavy timbers covered over with sod. They closely resembled huge mounds of earth. Most lodges were 30 to 40 feet in diameter. In this village two of the 22 known sites on the state-owned land were considerably larger. Presumably they were the dwellings of more important families.

A museum and interpretive center was built in 1967 over one of the larger lodge sites. While other lodge sites have been scientifically excavated and then refilled, the one inside the museum walls has been left exposed. It has a diameter of 50 feet and an area of almost 2000 square feet. On the floor of the lodge visitors can see remains of burned timbers from the collapsed walls and the post holes in which roof and wall supports once stood. Ashes still remain in the hearth. Left where they were found on the floor are remains of stone, bone, and metal tools and implements, which were left behind when the lodge was abandoned.

Surface features of the site which are visible are the locations of lodge floors, storage pits, and the remains of the fortification wall around the village.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This Pawnee Indian village on the Republican river was probably inhabited in the 1820's and 1830's. It is believed to have been the village visited by Jedediah Smith, famed mountain man and explorer, in January, 1826, when he was on his way west with a party of trappers.

This is one of only a few documented Pawnee sites which have been scientifically excavated and the only one in Kansas. It is the only major preserved Pawnee village site in the Central Plains area. The museum constructed around a scientifically excavated earthlodge is unique in Plains archeology.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Grange, Roger T., Jr., Pawnee and Lower Loup Pottery (Lincoln, Nebraska State Historical Society, 1968).

Kansas State Historical Society, "Pawnee Indian Village Museum" (Topeka, State Printer, n.d.).

Smith, Carlyle S., "European Trade Material from the Kansas Monument Site," Plains Archeological Conference Newsletter, v. 3, no. 2 (April 15, 1950), pp. 2-9.

Smith, Carlyle S., "The Pottery from the Kansas Monument Site," Plains Archeological Conference Newsletter, v. 3, no. 4 (October 15, 1950), pp. 7-9.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	0			0				
NE	0			0				
SE	0			0				
SW	0			0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 11.2 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Thomas A. Witty, State Archeologist Richard Pankratz, Director, Historic Sites Survey		
ORGANIZATION Kansas State Historical Society	DATE Oct., 1970	
STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth Street		
CITY OR TOWN: Topeka	STATE Kansas 66612	CODE 20

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name _____
Nyle H. Miller

Title _____

Date Sent to NR: 10/12/70; 2/8/71

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Kansas	
COUNTY Republic	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

PAWNEE INDIAN VILLAGE

9. cont.

Wedel, Waldo R., An Introduction to Pawnee Archeology (Washington, U. S. Government Printing Office, 1936).

Witty, Thomas A., "1966 Excavations at the Kansas Monument Site, 14RP1," Plains Anthropologist, v. 12, no. 36 (May, 1967), p. 218.

Witty, Thomas A., "The Pawnee Indian Village Project," Kansas Anthropological Association Newsletter, v. 13, no. 5 (January, 1968), pp. 1-5.

